- Scheme for Market Development
- Scheme for Quality Development
- Scheme for Research and Development
- Scheme for transport assistance.

Survey on quantity of fruits

4129. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to establish the total quantity of fruits available for food processing industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

. (c) whether a huge quantity of fruits is wasted every year due to nonexistence of proper storage facility of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Production of fruits in the country (2004-05) was 492.94 lakhs tonnes, State-wise annual data for horticulture produce is maintained by National Horticulture Board under Ministry of Agriculture. Though, no specific survey to establish the quantity of fruits available for food processing industries has been conducted, the level of processing is estimated at 2.2% for fruits & vegetables. According to the Vision 2015 report prepared by Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd. wastage of Agricultural food items (including fruits) is estimated to be about Rs. 58,000 crore annually, occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc. Wastage of fruits and vegetables is estimated to be of the order of 22% due to such inadequate facilities.

The Government, through its schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of food related infrastructure aimed at reducing wastage, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, through its plan schemes during Tenth Plan, has been promoting development of infrastructure for

food processing industries including cold storages, special type of cold storages with controlled/modified atmosphere facility and cold storages as integral part of processing units or part of common facilities in Food Park. During the Tenth Plan, the Ministry has implemented a scheme for cold chain facilities whereunder assistance upto 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 33.33%.in difficult areas with a common ceiling of Rs. 75 lakhs was admissible to all implementing agencies. During the Xlth Plan, the Ministry is working on launching a revamped comprehensive Cold Chain Infrastructure Scheme for creating integrated cold chain infrastructure at different levels farm level primary processing centre-cum-cold chain, collection/aggregation centres and Strategic Distribution Centers. The initiative being undertaken by the Ministry are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure leading to overall development of food processing industries and reduction in wastages.

Chemicals and compounds in soft drinks

†4130. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether different chemicals and other compounds are used in pepsi, cola, coca cola and other cold drinks of this type; if so, the names of those chemicals and compounds alongwith their quantity;

(b) whether it is a fact that such items are used in these soft drinks which are very much injurious to health;

(c) whether the test of all chemicals and compounds used in them has been done; if so, its outcome; and

(d) whether it will be made mandatory for the manufacturers of soft drinks that they mention the names and quantity of chemicals and compounds used in it in every container?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.